

FARNHAM WITH STRATFORD ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL  
Minutes of the meeting held Monday 13 February 2023 at the Riverside Centre

Present: Councillors Ian Norman, Richard Ayres, Jill Pass, Rosemary Conibeer, Annabel Warne, Richard Sayer

Apologies: Tim Plant

In attendance: Parish clerk Debbi Tayler, Andrew Reid (SCC)

**1 Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Plant.  
Councillor Norman announced that Councillor Gordon Gilbert had passed away recently. He had been a parish councillor since about 1978 without a break. He was very active in the community having been a Rotarian and helped organise events for them including the Heritage Marathon. Everyone in the area knew him and he was particularly famous for his chickens always donating one to the Harvest Festival Supper auction each year. He was still working until he broke his hip last summer. He will be remembered fondly and much missed.

**2 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 Cooption of Richard Sayer**

Richard Sayer was asked to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and duly coopted to the council.

**4 Minutes of meetings held 9 January 2023**

The minutes of the meeting were unanimously approved and signed.  
Councillor Norman advised that the Riverside Committee had insisted the Jubilee tree be moved from the car park and that it has now been replanted opposite the playground.  
There is still a lot of mud on the lane where building work is going on at the Hackmans.

**5 Questions from the public**

There were no questions.

**6 Reports from County and District Councillors**

Reports from the county and district councillors were circulated prior to the meeting.  
Councillor Reid highlighted several issues from his report. SCC is aiming for net zero emissions by 2030. The council is still carrying out the project to change all streetlights to LED which will save around £45000. SCC aims to have an all electric fleet by 2025. They will be spending to save by decarbonising buildings and reducing gas consumption. Funding to CAB is to be boosted by £45000.  
Councillor Ayres asked about the replacement of signage that had rotted or broken.  
Councillor Reid agreed to take this up if we send him a list of those signs affected.

**7 Clerk's Report**

The correspondence log was circulated prior to the meeting.  
It was agreed that we will take advantage of the district council's offer of 500 bulbs.

Signed .....(Chair)

Date.....

Litter picking will be done locally by councillors.

## 8 RFO's report

At present there is £7718.54 in the council's bank account. There were three invoices for approval.

Clerk's salary	£182.36	Legal power
PAYE Month 10	£45.80	LGA 1972 s.112
Village maintenance	£276.24	LGA 1972 s.112
		LGA 1972 s.111

The invoices were approved. There were no receipts. The balance is now £7214.14. The clerk has finally managed to contact Barclays and has received the mandate change forms which will be actioned.

## 9 Approval of internal auditor

It was agreed that SALC should be appointed as the council's internal auditor again this year.

## 10 PC laptop

Councillor Pass has examined the laptop and advised it needs replacing as it is seven years old and running very slowly. It was agreed that the clerk should purchase a new laptop and Microsoft 365.

## 11 Reports from external meetings

Councillor Conibeer has attended a Coronation Committee meeting with members of the Riverside Committee. The committee has said they would like to purchase a tree to be planted. It was agreed to ask how much they want and then to let the Riverside purchase, plant and look after the tree. They would also like to present commemorative coins. It was agreed to offer £250 and to let the committee purchase and distribute the coins. The council will ask the district and county councillors if they will make a donation towards this. The committee would also like a donation towards the day itself. They must be asked exactly what the money is for in order to satisfy audit regulations.

## 13 Items for future meetings

Nominations for parish council elections.

As the April meeting falls on Easter Monday it was agreed to move the meeting to 7 April. The May meeting falls on the Coronation bank holiday, the clerk will check on timings for this meeting following the elections.

The meeting was closed at 21.02.

Signed .....(Chair)

Date.....